
NEWS RELEASE

Judd Gregg

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GREGG COMMENTS ON BAUCUS DRAFT HEALTH CARE REFORM LEGISLATION

Senator Gregg stated, "I am disappointed that bipartisan negotiations thus far have failed to come to an agreement on health care reform legislation that has the potential to receive broad support. That said, Senator Baucus and those on the Finance Committee have worked extremely hard, and their efforts deserve our respect.

"As we all know, health care reform is a very complex issue that does not have a single, simple solution. However, the bottom line on Senator Baucus's bill is that it fails to consider our current fiscal reality. This health reform bill dramatically expands the size of our government, and it is critical that we be mindful of these costs for both the short and the long-term. The current bill's claim of deficit-neutrality is dependent on Congress's willingness to follow through on painful cuts they have been unwilling to follow through on in the past, including payments rates for physicians and hospital market basket cuts. It is unlikely that these offsets will be achieved, and instead we will be saddled with even more debt.

"I remain hopeful that at the end of the process we can reach a bipartisan consensus to deliver quality, affordable health insurance to all Americans in a manner that will not bankrupt our country."

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